

DEAR RESIDENT,

The County Auditor is the sealer of Weights and Measures for all of Mahoning County. Our agency protects the public from any discrepancies which may occur from faulty weighing and measuring devices, such as scales or fuel pumps.

Inspectors check all types of retail and department stores, in addition to hundreds of other businesses, to ensure the price on the shelf is the price that you pay. As Auditor, I am responsible for ensuring the state laws relating to Weights and Measures are strictly enforced in Mahoning County.

If you ever have a question or complaint about a weighing or measuring device, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Ralph T. Meacham, CPA
Mahoning County Auditor



RALPH T. MEACHAM, CPA
MAHONING COUNTY AUDITOR

MAHONING COUNTY COURTHOUSE

120 Market Street
Youngstown, OH 44503
330-740-2010

www.mahoningcountyauditor.org



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HOURS:
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Weight Table:

Symbol	When You know	Multiply by	To Find	Symbol
VOLUME				
tsp	teaspoons	5	milliliters	mL
Tbsp	tablespoons	15	milliliters	mL
In ³	cubic inches	1.6	milliliters	mL
fl oz	fluid ounces	30	milliliters	mL
c	cups	0.24	liters	L
pt	pints	0.47	liters	L
qt	quarts	0.95	liters	L
gal	gallons	3.8	liters	L
Ft ³	cubic feet	0.03	cubic meters	m ³
yd ³	cubic yards	0.76	cubic meters	m ³
MASS (weight)				
oz	ounces	28	grams	g
lb	pounds	0.45	kilograms	kg
	short tons (2,000 pounds)	0.9	metric ton	t
AREA				
in ²	square inches	6.5	square centimeters	cm ²
ft ²	square feet	0.09	square meters	m ²
yd ²	square yards	0.8	square meters	m ²
mi ²	square miles	2.6	square kilometers	km ²
	acres	0.4	hectares	ha



SEALER, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES



RALPH T. MEACHAM, CPA
MAHONING COUNTY AUDITOR

Protecting Your Purchase

A good Weights and Measures program saves the average household hundreds of dollars each year. The seal of the Weights and Measures Department protects the buyer and seller by maintaining equity in the marketplace.

The Mahoning County Weights and Measures Department inspects many devices for accuracy each year. These devices include gas pumps, deli scales, vehicle scales, fuel oil truck meters, and liquid propane meters, among others.

Look for the Approval Seals:



Commercial weighing and measuring devices are randomly tested by inspectors. If correct, the seal of approval is placed on the equipment.

Gas Pumps

Many factors draw a motorist to a gas station, and price is near the top. To be sure you are charged the correct amount based on the posted price, do the following:



- Check the prices posted on station signs that list the grade of gasoline and type of service you select (full, self, cash/credit). The posted price must be the same posted price on the gas pump.
- Make sure the dollar amount and gallons are set to zero. Check to be sure that you have been charged the correct amount and take the receipt with you.

- Keep in mind that the vehicle tank capacity is only an estimate. Your car's gas tank may hold more than the stated capacity to allow for expansion of the fuel in hot weather.

Package Inspection

Commodities packaged in advance of sale are randomly checked for accuracy. The products must meet or exceed the labeled weight. State packaging, labeling, and method of sale regulations are applied for food and non-food items.

Two things to know and remember:

- All packaged goods must be marked with a statement concerning net contents.
- Net weight does not include the weight of the bag, wrapper, or container in which a commodity may be weighed.

Scales

Look for the current year County Auditor Weights and Measures seal on the weighing device. See that net weight and total price indications show zero before weighing the product. Make sure the correct price per pound is entered into the scale. Inspectors check scales for accuracy according to weight.



In over-the-counter sales, the scales and their quantity value indicators must be in reasonable view of the consumer.

Question the merchant if you are in doubt about a transaction. It could be the result of an error that the merchant could quickly rectify if brought to his/her attention.

Scanner Inspection

Almost every product bears the Universal Product Code (UPC). This symbol, a series of numbers and vertical bars of varying thickness is shorthand for the product information.



When a cashier passes the UPC symbol over an electronic scanner, a computer decodes the symbol and sends data to the register. The price appears on the display screen and your printed receipt.

Inspectors randomly check items to ensure pricing accuracy in retail establishments.

Suggestions For Consumers

Be an informed consumer by learning what is required of merchants. Watch the display screen for prices. If you think you are being overcharged, speak up.

Consider bringing a copy of a sale's flyer or newspaper ad to the check-out counter with you. Check your receipt before you walk away.

Expect accurate weight and measurement in your purchase, just as you expect accurate change from the cashier.

Buyer and Seller

Be acquainted with your Weights and Measures officials under the supervision of County Auditor Ralph T. Meacham, CPA. If in doubt on any weighing and measuring matter, contact Auditor Meacham's office.

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